



**COAST GUARD
MARINE SAFETY OFFICE
JACKSONVILLE**



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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 32-01

November 7, 2001

Northern Right Whale Mandatory Reporting Requirements

The WHALESOUTH Mandatory Ship Reporting (MSR) area will be activated as of November 15, 2001 and will continue through April 16, 2002. The geographical boundaries stretch along the Atlantic Seaboard in Florida and Georgia and affect vessels making port calls in Brunswick, Fernandina, Jacksonville, and Port Canaveral. This area extends from shoreline eastward to approximately 25 Nautical Miles off shore, and from just south of Cape Canaveral to north of Brunswick, as outlined on NOAA chart no. 11009.

All vessels greater than 300 GT are required to report the following information to the U S Coast Guard: 1) Vessel name, call sign, IMO number, and flag of vessel, 2) Date and time of message, 3) True course, 4) Speed, 5) Date and time of entry into area, 6) Destination and expected arrival time, and 7) Intended track to destination.

This information is to be reported via INMARSAT C to the following address:

Email: RightWhale.MSR@noaa.gov or Telex: 236737831

Vessels not equipped with INMARSAT C should make reports via SITOR or HF to CAMSLANT. Vessels not equipped with SITOR or HF should make reports to Coast Guard Group via MF or VHF. Further information on reporting requirements can be found in 33 CFR 169. Failure to report can result in civil penalties of up to \$27,500 per violation.

Reporting of this information is important, as this area is the only known calving ground of the endangered Northern Right Whale, of which there are only about 300 remaining in existence.

Agents and masters of vessels entering the ports of Fernandina, Jacksonville, and Canaveral should ensure that vessels entering the critical habitat are making the required notifications. Any questions can be directed to LT Bill Weinbecker at the Coast Guard Marine Safety Office Jacksonville (904) 232-2640 X140.

M. M. ROSECRANS
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port